



STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL OF DELAWARE
MEETING MINUTES
NOTICE OF MEETING

October, 2014

Attendees:

Wilmington: Paul Beane, Alvin Emory, HarrietAnn Litwin, Ed Tos, Andrea Guest, Clem Colston

Dover: Lisa Furber

Absent: Alice Coleman, Norwood Coleman, Bobbi DeHaven, Moni Edgar, Larry Henderson, Dale Matusevich, Stan Mifflin, Vicky Tully

Meeting Minutes

11:30 am – 12:09 pm Lunch

DVR Director Andrea Guest went through the list of members. Several people's memberships have expired. The members on the council are dwindling. Andrea and Lisa will convene and work on recruitment strategies. Those needing to reapply are Moni Edgar, Lisa Furber, and Norwood Coleman.

- **Welcome from the Chairperson- Lisa Furber**

12:15 pm Lisa welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- **DVR Director's Report- Andrea Guest**

- Andrea informed the group that VR is transitioning to a new client casework database. DVR is in the middle of the conversion process now. DVR expects the conversion to be complete by the first of November.
- WIOA-Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act- was passed and went into effect on Oct. 1, 2014. VR is waiting for RSA to issue regulations which will provide guidance to the State agency on the new provisions of WIOA.
- ⊖ Some important changes in the new law include a greater focus on serving transition aged youth and changes to supported employment.
- The One-Stops may also experience some changes, but nothing specific is known at this time. The WIOA places a greater emphasis on employers and how VR works with employers.
- Another notable change is that RSA will no longer fund regional. Technical Assistance and Continuing Education Centers. George Washington University was the TACE serving Region 3. The ten (10) regional TACE's will be replaced with 2 Mega TACEs. One TACE will be a job driven TACE focused on best practices and how to work with employers. The other TACE will be focused on transition and will be housed at the National Secondary Transition Center DVR will continue to develop-services for working with transition aged youth. DVR already allocates a lot of their resources for serving transition students. The WIOA also mandates that VR spends 15% of our Federal Grant for VR services on transition, which we already do.



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- The Annual Transition Conference will be held at Dover Downs on October 31, 2014. It was moved up to the beginning of the school year to accommodate students' ability to utilize VR Transition Services throughout the year.
 - State Employee Survey had a 30% response rate
 - The survey asked if an employee had a disability, what their experiences have been with accommodations on the job
 - If an employee did not have a disability, what were their attitudes ~~were~~.
 - We developed an online training program available to all employees to include some of these objectives: benefits of hiring/retaining persons with disabilities, providing an overview of the ADA, dispelling myths, interacting with persons with disabilities and identifying resources for State employees.
 - Walgreens has an in-store training program called the Redi Program. We have partnered with a couple of stores who will train and hire consumers. The program is not available at all Walgreens stores; the site has to volunteer to become a training site. Two sites are up and running.
 - A second Project SEARCH site is operating now in Kent County. Kent General Hospital, Capitol School District, Department Of Education, VR, Community Integrated Services and Autism Delaware's POW&R Program are collaborating for this program.
 - ⊖ DVR had 1046 successful placements in FY14. DVR's focus is now on quality placements. DVR is doing a good job in placing clients-but wants to learn more about whether the individuals are working in the fields in which they were trained and are they earning a livable wage. DVR will do this by focusing on Career Pathways-
 - **SRC Activities- Lisa, HarrietAnn**
 - SRC Learning Community
 - DVR's SRC chair and liaison have been participating in a SRC Learning Community coordinated and supported by GWU TACE. The purpose of this learning community is to share best practices among other councils in Region 3. The group has decided that it will continue to meet on a periodic basis without the support of GWU TACE. On a conference call, the group decided to meet in Virginia near the DC border. The Virginia council will locate a hotel in the area to accommodate future meetings. West Virginia's Sherry Taylor volunteered to be the point person for the agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for after the New Year.
 - **Consumer Satisfaction**
 - Preliminary data for FY 2014 was presented. response rate was not as high as we would have liked. Before a client is considered unreachable, they are being called on the phone multiple times.
For FY 2015, a new system is being developed. When a case gets closed in status 26 or 28, a survey will be included in the closure letter with a postage paid envelop. Their client ID will be included so we can track who
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returned their responses. Individuals who do not return the surveys will be called on the phone.

- **Planning for the SRC Recognition Luncheon**
 - Moni and HarrietAnn secured Dover Downs on Monday Dec. 8. Rita Martin from CSAVR will be the key-note speaker. She is well versed in WIOA information. Invitations will be going out shortly. HarrietAnn will send out the mailing list so members can add others. DVI's Shirley Bryson will be providing names from DVI's SRC members.
- **Planning for the SRC Annual Report**
 - Lisa asked if anyone would like to help in part or in whole with the Annual Report. It is due 12/31/14. It is used to educate legislators on the importance of the VR program and the return on investment realized from the program. Paul Bean volunteered to help with the Annual Report. HarrietAnn has been collecting consumer vignettes from the weekly reports.
- **Leadership/Membership**
 - The recognition luncheon would be a great recruitment venue. Lisa will let the attendees know about the opportunities with in SRC. SRC brochures will be placed at each of the dining tables.
 - Please share your recruitment ideas with Lisa Furber
 - The Vice-Chair position is still available. Again, let Lisa Furber know if you are interested.
- **Meeting Schedule**
 - The current schedule allows us to complete all the required tasks throughout the year. If we had a strong subcommittee structure, a quarterly meeting schedule might be possible. Since many sub committees are not active, it is not practical to decrease the number of meetings per year at this time.
- **New Business**
 - DVR had the first VR provider meeting to discuss issues & solutions to best serve the clients. Paul would appreciate the opportunity to assess outcomes that may have improved as a result of the governor's initiative. Lisa suggested that the counsel revitalize the Governor Relations sub-committee to generate letters of support for legislation that may affect DVR clients. Paul would like to join this sub-committee.
 - Policy committee met recently. The Policy Committee met in early October. The group discussed Chapter 15, which covers training and touches on secondary education, clarifying some points. The next meeting will focus on Chapter 15A which covers secondary education. In the future, the committee will also talk about how AWARE will change some of the policies/procedures that are currently in place.

● **Adjourn Meeting**

1:20 pm